

Alabama Trails Commission and Advisory Board Joint Meeting  
Alabama Center for Commerce  
Montgomery, Alabama  
December 4, 2014

ATC Attendees

Debbie Quinn, Chair  
Corey Clifton  
Wayde Morse  
Joshua Jones  
Amy Rauworth  
Richard Guthrie  
Phillip West  
Rob Grant (For Greg Lein)

ATCAB Attendees

Nisa Miranda  
Ike Lyon  
Richard Martin  
Terri Collins  
Cynthia Ragland  
Gordon Stone  
Francesca Gross  
Jim Felder

Visitors

Brian Rushing  
R. B. Walker  
Steve Timms  
Frank Shecko  
Kelly Bar  
Jacob Richards  
Liz Craig  
Crystal Davis  
Maureen Neighbors

Introduction

Debbie Quinn called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM. The attendees were then greeted and welcomed by Jim Byard.

ALDOT – Corey Clifton discussed the following ALDOT programs:

- TAP 2013 replaced TE & Safe School
- Portion goes through ADECA for Trails
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Program

- Scenic Byways, but no funding
- Mary Lou Crenshaw multi modal not leaving immediately

Maureen Neighbors discussed the Recreational Trails Program and the Land Water Conservation Fund. These are the two primary funding sources that you can get to fund trails.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved unanimously.

Grants – Amy Rauworth discussed the following regarding Grants:

- Grant application to look at universal design
- Best experience for all users not just disabled
- Beneficial designs
- UTAP/HETAP
- Include training and buy equipment
- Signage at Oak Mountain as demo project and get feedback
- List on website the grade of terrain-other states are currently doing this

Website – Brian presented a power point presentation to demonstrate the progression of the website.

- More upgrades on the way for aesthetics
- Functionality is near launch
- Alabama.gov for website address
- Add events calendar with submit tabs (Stage 2)
- Social media link
- Comment /interactive discussion
- Phone number and email

Tech Committee – The Committee has not met recently; however, they will meet soon to discuss how to give technical resources to cities and communities who need help and do not have the capacity to proceed.

Legislation – Debbie reported the following regarding Legislation:

- Grammatical changes
- Add additional people to the advisory board
- Need additional User groups
- Change terms from 2 years to 4 years with one reappointment
- Legislation got submitted late last year. It needs to be submitted earlier.

Richard Guthrie made a motion to approve and seconded by Richard Martin. The proposed legislation passed unanimously.

By-law Changes to Reflect Legislation – The changes would have a separate Secretary and Treasurer so that there is a larger committee; changed the 2 year term; took out the reference that reports would be submitted by the second legislative day and changed to “given during the legislative session”; 3 meetings a year and conference call meeting if

needed; changed the rotating members. Richard Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Wayde Morse and carried unanimously.

Rail Trails – Debbie reported on the Anadaluza to Geneva trail owned by CSX. They are currently asking \$1.6 million for the 43 mile trail. She suggested talking to Forever Wild and State Parks about this as well as local cities and communities about what they can do for the state parks. It was discussed with Corey about getting a TAP grant. Monroe County Commission has gotten 2 RTPs and a TAP grant. It was suggested that the Rails to Trails Conservatory be invited to attend a meeting.

Debbie is currently working with the City of Mobile on the 3 mile creek. The city/county health department and Mobile Bay Keepers want to create a trail along the creek. The area floods frequently and the city had to buy most of the homes that back up to the creek.

Standing Committees – The Executive Committee met to find ways to have more involvement. It was decided that there would be three standing committees. The first would be Education and Research. Dr. Morse stated he would Chair that committee. The first meeting would be to meet with state and federal land owners in the state to find ways to work better together. The second committee would be Policy and Advocacy. Nisa and Debbie will serve as Chair. The third will be Outreach. This could include trail conferences, web design, and communications. This would also include reaching out to others groups that could assist. Joshua made a motion to approve, seconded by Phillip West and the motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Wayde Morse CDC presentation – The following was discussed:

- Funded research on obesity in Alabama
- Health and nutrition access

Debbie attended the National League of Cities who received a \$3 million dollar grant. She has been asked to sit on the Committee with them to see how trails can be a part of the discussion.

Calendar for next year - The dates for the next meetings will be March 5 in Montgomery, August 6 in Elkmont, and December 3. The December location has not been set.

Officers for next 2 years – Officers for the ATC: Debbie Quinn, Chair, Phillip West, Vice Chair, Amy Rauworth, Secretary. Richard Martin made a motion to approve, seconded by Richard Guthrie and the motion carried unanimously. Officers for ATCAB Nisa Miranda, Chair, Steve Newton, Vice Chair, and Jim Felder, Secretary/Treasurer. Cynthia Ragland made a motion and was seconded by Terri Collins. The motion carried unanimously.

There will be several events coming up. Jim Felder will be speaking at the Hiking Trails Society in March. Alabama Equestrians will be having a conference in March. Alabama League of Municipalities is in April or May. American Trail will be coming up and

Debbie and Amy will be attending in Portland and Debbie has been invited to go to the National League of Cities in Cuba.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maureen Neighbors